



CITY OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor

Thomas M. Menino

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mayor Menino Kicks Off Boston's Earned Income Tax Credit Campaign

To Help In These Tough Economic Times, Individuals May Receive Up to \$4,700

Mayor Menino and the City of Boston's Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) campaign are gearing up for another tax season by announcing that on January 25, 2003, 16 free tax preparation sites (see attached) throughout the city will open. The EITC is a federal and state tax credit available to many low-income working families and individuals. Eligible residents can qualify for up to \$4,700 in federal and state money, but many are unaware of the EITC and therefore don't apply for it. Almost 40,000 claims were processed last year, refunding more than \$58 million to Boston households. With the help of volunteers, the campaign aims to return millions in tax refund dollars to the pockets of Boston's low-income families. Residents who qualify for the tax credit can go to the tax prep site in their community and have their taxes done for free. They will also receive financial counseling and learn about a variety of other city services.

"The EITC is designed to put more money in the pockets of hard working people," said Mayor Menino. "And in today's tough economy, people can use this money to help pay bills, buy food, or invest in their families future. I urge residents to go to the free tax prep site in their community in order to receive their full tax refund."

Mayor Menino also urged employers to inform their workers about the underutilized tax credit. "The best way to get this money into the hands of the people who earned it is by getting the word out," said the Mayor.

Families and individuals may qualify for the earned income tax credit if they worked in the year 2002 and earned less than \$34,000. To find out if you qualify for the tax credit, call 617.918.5275 or visit www.bostontaxhelp.org.

The Boston EITC campaign is a collaboration of city, state and federal government organizations, regulators, foundations, non-profits and community-based organizations, as well as the business community. The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) provides free software and training materials to the volunteer sites. Together, the campaign and the IRS provide training to site staff and volunteers.

For more information about the Earned Income Tax Credit, visit www.bostontaxhelp.org or call 617.918.5275.

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WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD TAX SITE

- ❑ Social Security Cards for you, your spouse, your children and other dependents.
- ❑ All W-2 forms (Earning Statements) for you and your spouse for every employer during 2002.
- ❑ All 1099 forms (including 1099G for any government payments, such as unemployment payments and 1099R for any pension payments received).
- ❑ Total of payments made for child care expenses as well as the name, address and SSN of child care provider.
- ❑ Form 1098 (Tuition payment statement) for each household member who attended college in 2002 and the total amount of student loan interest paid.
- ❑ Total rent paid in 2002 along with landlord's name and address.
- ❑ A deposit slip or voided check for Direct Deposit.
- ❑ If possible, a copy of 2001 Federal or Mass. Tax return.

2003 Free Tax Preparation Sites—Opening January 25, 2003

**CODMAN SQUARE
HEALTH CENTER**
637 Washington Street
Dorchester, MA 02124
Doreen Treacy
617.822.8182

**HISPANIC OFFICE OF PLANNING
& EVALUATION (HOPE)**
165 Brookside Avenue Ext.
Boston, MA 02130
Craig Far
617.524.8888

OAK SQUARE YMCA
615 Washington Street
Brighton, MA 02135
Sharon Malone
617.782.3535

CTA (ALLSTON/BRIGHTON)
35 Fidelis Way
Brighton, MA 02134
Raysa Tapia
617.787.2727

IBA
100 W. Dedham Street
Boston, MA 02118
Preeti Mehta
617.927.1723

PARKERHILL FENWAY NSC
714 Parker Street
Roxbury, MA 02120
Edna Lozano
617.445.6000 x232

DORCHESTER NSC
110 Claybourne Street
Dorchester, MA 02124
Donald Culpepper
617.288.2700

JVS-CHAUNCY STREET
105 Chauncy Street
Boston, MA 02111
Ellen Cross
617.451.8147

ROXBURY RESOURCE CENTER
2201 Washington Street
Roxbury, MA 02119
Alan Gentle
617.989.9150

EAST BOSTON APAC
21 Meridien Street
East Boston, MA 02128
Amy Lima
617.567.8857

**LEARNING WORKS/
TEMPLE PLACE**
19 Temple Place
Boston, MA 02111
Aaron Tanimoto
617.348.7575

SNAP
554 Columbus Avenue
Boston, MA 02118
Vonessa Goode
617.267.7400

ELM HILL FSC
22 Elm Hill Avenue
Roxbury, MA 02119
Shilo Kuriakose
617.442.5900 x202

MATTAPAN FSC
535 River Street
Mattapan, MA 02126
Janine Spinola-Taylor
617.298.2045

SOUTH BOSTON APAC
424 W. Broadway
South Boston, MA 02127
Patricia Wright
617.269.5160 x111

USES (Will Open 1/28)
566 Columbus Avenue
Boston, MA 02118
Steve Katnack
617.375.8104

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